

Meeting Summary of the SANBAG Board of Directors

San Bernardino Associated Governments ■ 1170 W. 3rd St., 2nd Floor, San Bernardino, CA 92410 ■ (909) 884-8276
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■ Automated system tracks vehicle collision locations countywide



Want to know what intersections to avoid? A system to track the location and severity of vehicle collisions completed its first year with the release of data about the most common trouble spots for accidents across county between 2000 and September 30, 2004.

Data Management Specialist Ginger Ryba compiled an "Intersection Collision Severity Summary" using accident data reported by police and sheriff personnel using a new standardized system. Funded by a grant through the state's Office of Traffic Safety, the computerized system will help traffic engineers, public works directors and elected officials pinpoint intersections in their areas that may need new signals, stop signs, crosswalks or other improvements. The top 10 trouble spots include:

1. Interstate 10 westbound at Monte Vista Avenue, Montclair, 148 collisions
2. Mariposa Road at Bear Valley Road, Hesperia, 104 collisions
3. Interstate 10 westbound at Central Avenue, Montclair, 100 collisions
4. Interstate 10 westbound at Milliken Avenue, Ontario, 100 collisions
5. Interstate 10 westbound at Archibald Avenue, Ontario, 99 collisions
6. Bear Valley Road at Hesperia Road, Hesperia, 99 collisions
7. Bear Valley Road at Amargosa Road, Victorville, 99 collisions
8. Route 60 westbound at Euclid Avenue, Ontario, 91 collisions
9. Valley Boulevard at Cedar Avenue, Bloomington, 91 collisions

■ Schuiling, Hughes mark years of service

Two SANBAG staff members were recognized by the Board of Directors for long-time service to the agency. Planning and Programming Director Ty Schuiling marked 15 years of service, and Clerk/Receptionist Beverly Hughes completed five years. Both received pins to honor them for their commitment to SANBAG.

Congratulations go to
Beverly Hughes and Ty Schuiling
for their service to SANBAG.



■ New Park & Ride Lot in Fontana moves forward

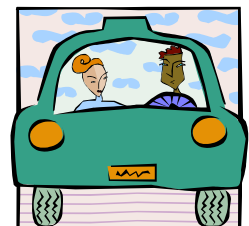
SANBAG inked an agreement with Caltrans to fund construction of a new Park & Ride Lot in Fontana using federal and local funds.

The new lot at Beech Avenue just north of Route 210 will provide an incentive for sharing rides. The lot is in an ideal location, due to its proximity to the freeway carpool on-ramp and off-ramp at this intersection, said Michelle Kirkhoff, SANBAG's Director of Air Quality/Mobility Programs. The Park & Ride Lot will provide 190 spaces for carpools and vanpools in this primarily residential area.

Construction is expected to cost \$744,000 and will be funded mainly by Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality funds, a federal funding source. Measure I funds will be used to pay for the required 11.47% local match.

Caltrans has completed a Project Study Report, the environmental document and preliminary design and will oversee the request for construction bids.

Construction is expected to start this November. The lot is set open to carpools next April.



Down the road ...

- July 13: Administrative Committee, 9 a.m.
- July 13: Commuter Rail Committee, 12 noon
- July 20: Plans & Programs Committee, 12 noon

Life is good in San Bernardino County, survey says

Seven out of 10 residents believe the area is a good place to live, according to the 2004-2005 San Bernardino County Annual Survey.

The Inland Empire Research Consortium from California State University, San Bernardino conducts the Annual Survey to measure opinions on quality of life issues, such as transportation, crime, public services and the economy. SANBAG, which helps sponsor the survey each year, uses the data to make policy decisions, get feedback regarding transportation issues and examine trends in public opinion over time. This is the eighth year that the survey has been conducted.

Researchers surveyed 970 county residents by telephone March 8-23. The survey includes a margin of error of 3.5%. Information also was divided into county zones — the East Valley, West Valley, Victor Valley and rural desert. Findings include:

Best things, worst things about living in San Bernardino County

- 71% think the county is a “very good” or “fairly good” place to live. This rating was highest in the rural desert communities (Barstow, Twentynine Palms, Yucca Valley, Needles, etc.) and lowest in the East Valley (Redlands, Yucaipa, Highland, mountain communities and others).
- When asked to name the one best thing about living in San Bernardino County, 31% cited its central location or scenery, 16% said the climate, 12% noted affordable housing and 8% indicated a lack of crowding.
- Negative factors about living in the county most often named were crime/gangs (22%), smog/pollution (14%), traffic (14%) and overpopulation (5%).



Transportation, commuting issues



- Traffic is an increasing concern among county residents. In 1997, the first year the survey was administered, only 1.7% of the residents said that traffic is the top problem facing the county. That figure climbed to 14% in the latest survey.
- Residents spend a significant amount of time commuting to and from work. A total of 36% spend more than an hour on the road (30 minutes or more each way): 22% spend between one and two hours, 9% spend between two and three hours, 5% spend between three and four hours, and 1% spend four hours commuting each day.
- Commute times are longest for Victor Valley residents; 45% of these workers spend more than an hour total on their daily commute.
- Most residents (71%) commute within San Bernardino County. Others drive to Los Angeles County (16%), Riverside County (5%) and Orange County (5%).
- The vast majority (88%) drive alone. Five percent take part in a carpool or vanpool, four percent work from home, and three percent ride the train, take the bus, walk or cycle to work.

Safety, Public Services

- In terms of personal safety, 41% of those surveyed said they are fearful of being a victim of a serious crime. This number is highest in the East Valley (48%) and lowest in the rural desert (28%). In the Victor Valley, the level of concern (44%) climbed from 29% in last year's survey.
- Perceptions of area services range widely. Shopping ranked highest, with 66% giving it “excellent” or “good” ratings. Police/sheriff services received a 63% approval rating, and parks/recreation followed with 55% rating it as either excellent or good. Other services fared less favorably: entertainment options were rated excellent or good by 46% of those surveyed, and public schools earned these marks by just 37% of the respondents. Street and road maintenance received the lowest rating — just 25% said the quality of their roads is excellent or good. Overall, West Valley residents (Chino, Chino Hills, Ontario, Rancho Cucamonga, Fontana, etc.) gave the county the highest ratings.



Economic issues

- Residents showed increased optimism about the county's economy, with 46% rating it as excellent or good, up from 39% last year and 28% in 1997, the first year of the survey. Over time, Victor Valley residents have shown the biggest change in perception: 43% rated the county economy as excellent or good, compared to 14% in 1997.



- On a personal financial level, one-third of those surveyed said that they are better off than they were a year ago. Most residents also believed that their finances would be better (45%) or the same (47%) next year.

For more detailed survey results, visit the research consortium's website at <http://iar.csusb.edu> or call the survey researchers at (909) 537-5729.